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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9 of the Second Extraordinary Session  
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Hal R. Ramer,  
President of Volunteer State Community  
College.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize and commend outstanding educators; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hal R. Ramer, the highly regarded President of Volunteer State Community College, is one such notable person, who provides tremendous leadership to his institution and the education profession; and

WHEREAS, a native of Kenton, Dr. Ramer received his Bachelor of Science degree from George Peabody College in 1947, his Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee in 1952, and his Ph.D. degree in higher education administration from Ohio State University in 1963; and

WHEREAS, from 1953-63 while at Ohio State, Dr. Ramer held the positions of Staff Assistant to the President, Assistant Dean of Men, and Director of the George Wells Knight International Center; and

WHEREAS, during his ten-year tenure at Ohio State, he was a valued member of Romophos and Bucket & Dipper honoraries and served as the faculty advisor of Alpha Phi Omega and the Social Board; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Ramer also helped organize and is an active member of the Ohio State University Alumni Club of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, prior to assuming the presidency of Volunteer State, he served successfully as Assistant State Commissioner for Higher Education of the Tennessee Department of Education for seven productive years (1963-70); and

WHEREAS, in this important position, Dr. Ramer was head of the administrative staff of the division of higher education with the State Board of Education, then the governing board for the six state regional universities, the community college system, and the technical institutes; and

WHEREAS, working with the Governor, the Tennessee General Assembly, the Commissioner of Education, and the State Board of Education, Dr. Ramer played a crucial role in the establishment of the statewide system of community colleges; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ramer's scholarly works include his doctoral dissertation on the role of university academic department chairmen (1963), a chapter in the *Report of the Community Services Commission of Nashville-Davidson County* (1952) and a chapter in *Community Colleges of Tennessee* (1979); each of which was well-received; and

WHEREAS, a renowned speaker, Dr. Ramer has inspired many with his acclaimed graduation addresses at the commencement ceremonies of Middle Tennessee State University, Martin College, David Lipscomb University, Aquinas College, and Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, his lengthy list of awards and honors include the 1970 State Department of Education's Distinguished Service Award, the 1987 Outstanding Education Leader Award given by the Peabody/Vanderbilt Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, the Governor's 1993 State Service Award, the 1995-96 Hendersonville Noon Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind Award, the 1996 Peabody College Distinguished Alumnus Award, the 1997 induction into the Saint Thomas Aquinas Society by Aquinas College, 1999 Presidential Service Award presented by the

American Association of Community Colleges, and the 1999 Otis Floyd, Jr. Statewide Award for Excellence in Administration from the Tennessee College Public Relations Association; and

WHEREAS, he bravely served as a member of the United States Army Air Corps in World War II from 1943-45. Dr. Ramer is a member of the American Legion and also received the rank of Colonel and Assistant Chief of Staff in the Tennessee Defense Force State Headquarters, Civil Affairs G-5, Military Department of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he has proven true to his roots, being a native of the "Volunteer State," contributing his time and considerable leadership abilities to educational organizations, the American Red Cross, the Boy Scouts of America, the United Way, the Gallatin Family YMCA, the Chamber of Commerce, the March of Dimes, and Rotary International; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ramer is an active member of the Belmont United Methodist Church where he admirably serves on their Administrative Board; and

WHEREAS, his hobbies include collecting antiques and antique cars, as well as having a love for photography and animals; and

WHEREAS, his remarkable 46-year career in the field of education and his many contributions to the public good are deserving of our deepest appreciation and recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Dr. Hal R. Ramer and wish him much continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.